

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15

STR-01 CEA-01 IO-10 NEA-09 AGR-05 L-02 FEA-01 INT-05

OES-03 /113 W

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R 301527Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9285

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, IT

SUBJECT: PREPARATIONS FOR CONSUMER-PRODUCER MEETINGS

REF: STATE 18322

1. EVENING JAN 28 WE TOOK UP INSTRUCTIONS IN REFTTEL WITH
FRANCISCI OF MFA, POINTING OUT THAT PROGRESS REMAINS TO BE
ACHEIVED IN TWO OF THE THREE AREAS, I.E., ENERGY CONSERVATION
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AND ALTERNATE SOURCES OF ENERGY. FRANCISCI WAS NOT SURPRISED

BY OUR APPROACH AND WAS GENERALLY AWARE THAT USG BELIEVES THAT FURTHER PROGRESS IS NECESSARY.

2. HE WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN US THINKING ON FIXING PRICES OF ALL ENERGY SOURCES TO FACILITATE SUBSTITUTION FOR PETROLEUM, AND IN ANY US VIEWS ON ESTABLISHING A LEVY OR SIMILAR DEVICE TO REDUCE DOWNSIDE RISK. HE COMMENTED THAT ITALY HAD HAD A BAD EXPERIENCE WITH VARIABLE LEVIES IN THE EXECUTION OF THE CAP, AND HIS PRELIMINARY VIEW WAS THAT ITALY WOULD HAVE DIFFICULTY WITH ANY SUCH SCHEME FOR PETROLEUM UNLESS THE GATE PRICE WERE SET AT A LEVEL LOWER THAN THAT THE US WOULD APPEAR TO BE CONSIDERING. MORE SPECIFICALLY, FRANCISCI SAID, ITALY'S ENERGY SITUATION WOULD LEAD IT TO FAVOR EC EMPHASIS ON SUBSIDY PROGRAMS FOR SPECIFIC ENERGY SUBSTITUTES. HE HOPED THIS APPARENT DIFFERENCE WOULD NOT BECOME AN EC-US ISSUE IN THE IEA AND THAT IT WOULD NOT RETARD PROGRESS TOWARD THE PRODUCER-CONSUMER DIALOGUE.

3. WE TOLD HIM THAT US THINKING ON THIS ISSUE HAS BEEN EVOLVING AND THAT THE GOI WILL RECEIVE INDICATIONS OF US THINKING SOON, PROBABLY AT FEB 5 IEA MEETING. VOLPE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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05 JUL 2006

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